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The Highlander

Thursday January 23 2025 | Issue 673

INSIDE: ICE RACING RETURNS PAGE 15 FREE

Pretty fly for a red hawk

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust held a special presentation at Archie Stouffer Elementary School Jan. 21, with presenter Emma Hunt and Will Scarlett, a Red-Tailed Hawk, which introduced students to live animals as part of the group's mandate to educate youth about nature and wildlife. *Photo by Justin Belanger.*

Wildlife sanctuary says not to feed 'Mooch'

By Lisa Gervais

Lisa Tolentino was leaving Todd's Independent in Haliburton with a cart full of groceries one recent winter night when a stealthy visitor approached her from behind.

"The whole thing freaked me out," she said this week.

Her encounter was with a young deer, whom Monika Melichar of Woodlands Wildlife Sanctuary calls 'Mooch.'

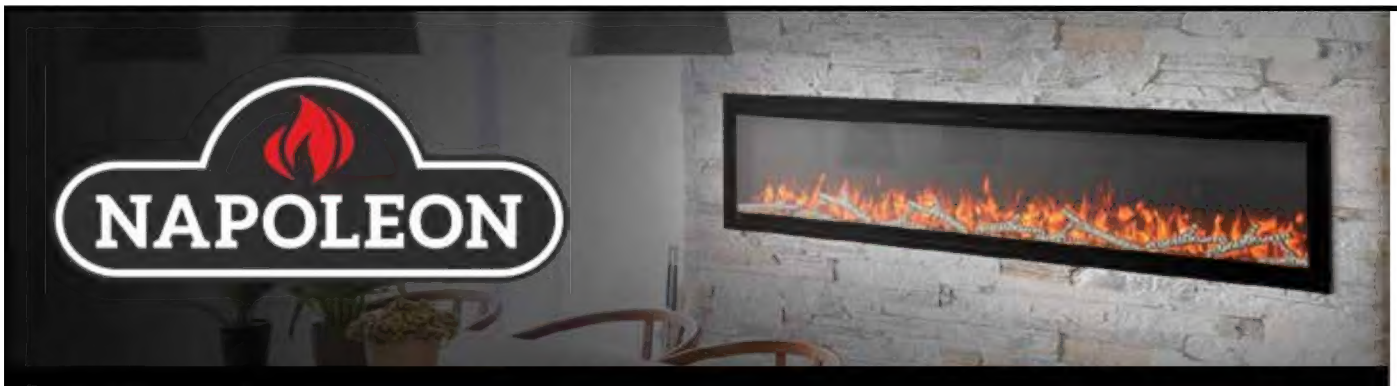
Tolentino said she is not afraid of deer, but there were only three vehicles in the snowy parking lot on that stormy night and the deer seemed to come out of nowhere.

"Have you seen *Leave the World Behind*? There's this scene where all the deer close in on the women," she added with a chuckle. The 2023 American film revolves around two families as they try to make sense of a rapid breakdown in phones, television, and other common technology, which points to a potential cataclysm.

"I turned around and he was right there. it just scared me. I didn't see him come to the car. He was sniffing in my groceries. He was looking for apples or whatever. I thought, 'this is really aggressive, I can't believe this'."

While she felt guilty, as the deer might have been starving, she said she knows better than to feed them.

Continued **'Dysart'** on page 2



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Dysart enforcing feeding bylaw

Continued from page 1

She also wonders if Dysart's deer feeding bylaw has contributed to 'Mooch' and other deer coming into town looking for food.

She snapped a photo and posted to Facebook – her most read and commented-on post in a long while. The feedback ranged from people telling her to feed it apples; to others saying they were in the process of cooking venison. "Two extremes: 'oh, how cute, feed them' and 'let's feed them so we can kill them'.

"I purposely did not feed him because I know it's not the right thing to do. I felt badly if he may have been starving, especially in the winter, but I am aware that it is not good for anybody on a whole bunch of levels."

Woodlands Wildlife Sanctuary PSA

Melichar is advising people not to interact with, or give 'Mooch,' or any deer, food.

"He is looking for hand-outs and people are feeding and petting him and he is becoming way too tame," she said.

"It's important that we get the word out that this is like killing him with kindness, and it's only fun until someone gets hurt."

Melichar is scratching her head since she said there have been numerous media reports about why people should not pet and feed deer.

She is worried the new Dysart deer feeding bylaw is not being enforced enough and the fines are too low. She added people are getting away with feeding by saying they are baiting for deer hunting.

"People are catching on. Don't get me wrong, there are people who understand and will follow this because they care about the deer. But the people who only care about themselves and their own little ego of having all these cuties come into their backyard are the ones that we have to somehow try and sway," Melichar said.

Haliburton Highlands OPP had to euthanize a deer after it was struck by a vehicle in front of the new A&W on County Road 21 on Monday morning, but Melichar does not think it was 'Mooch'. However, OPP Const. Rob Adams said, "the car/deer collisions are significant in the County." OPP had to dispatch the deer as it had broken legs.

> *This is like killing him with kindness.*
> ***Monika Melichar***
> ***Woodlands Wildlife Sanctuary***

Deer feeding bylaw

Hailey Cole is the Dysart bylaw supervisor.

She said they are continuing to enforce the bylaw and they are getting complaints.

"There are some people who have received tickets who are opting to stop feeding deer; and that is great, we have compliance. There are other people who just say, 'give me a ticket and I'll continue on my way'. Some people consider it a hobby and they are willing to pay whatever need be for their hobby."

The Independent deer has been nicknamed 'Mooch.' *Submitted.*

She said there were very few people who had only received one fine and, "anybody who is still feeding has received multiple fines."

As for people saying they are baiting deer for hunting, Cole said the township does not have the authority to supercede the province. "People saying they are baiting for a lawful hunt; if there is a reasonable amount of wooded area on their property, and they have a hunting license and a tag, then during hunting season we're hands-off."

But, at this time of year, she said they would not be accepting baiting as an exemption. "We need to see the tag.

"We are enforcing the deer feeding bylaw actively. We try to get out as quickly as we can, as often as we can, but we're not a deer feeding enforcement department; we're bylaw enforcement. We are also dealing with parking, short-term rentals, zoning violations, property standards, noise, light infiltration. We're dealing with all of these things and there's two of us."

As for the effect of the bylaw during its first winter, Cole said, "I don't truly think anybody can speak to that because nobody's really monitoring it."

When it comes to 'Mooch' she said, "feeding is not good for him."

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Three rescued after sleds go through ice

By Lisa Gervais

Members of the Haliburton Highlands detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to three snowmobiles going through the ice - on Gull Lake and Miskwabi Lake - Jan. 18.

One person was injured and OPP used the incidents to remind the public that no ice is safe ice.

Police said that on Saturday, just after 2 p.m., officers, with the assistance of the Minden Hills fire department, Haliburton County EMS and City of Kawartha Lakes EMS paramedics, responded to two snowmobiles that went through the ice on Gull Lake near Schaefers Road in Minden Hills.

"Officers learned that one snowmobile driver had gone into the lake with their machine and was able to get out and onto the ice," OPP said. "A second driver had their snowmobile break through the ice but was able to remain on the ice and not go in the water. Good Samaritans attempted to rescue these parties but were not successful," OPP said.

Minden Hills fire department members attended the scene with their rapid deployment craft (RDC). Firefighters were able to rescue the two persons from the ice, approximately 800 ft. from shore with the assistance of Haliburton OPP officers and paramedics. "Luckily, neither of the riders were injured as a result of the incident," police said.

They added that almost all recreational activities involve some risk, especially the use of frozen lakes, rivers and streams. However, "it is important to remember that what appears to be frozen could, in fact, be ice that is not capable of supporting any weight at all.

"It's critically important to determine the quality and thickness of ice before venturing onto it. Ice can change very quickly, and its appearance can be misleading. No ice goes without risks and snowmobiling over frozen bodies of water poses a significantly larger risk," police said.

Meanwhile, OPP were dispatched to a snowmobiler that had gone through the ice on Miskwabi Lake in Dysart et al this past Saturday as well.

Officers, along with the Dysart fire department and Haliburton County EMS paramedics attended the area, "as multiple reports were received that a snowmobiler was yelling for help, stating that they were in the water," OPP said.

Snowmobilers are being urged to check ice conditions before venturing on area waterways. *File.*

OPP added Dysart fire department members utilized their ice/cold water rescue to search the lake for the person.

"Firefighters were able to locate the victim who was in open water and was pulled to safety and brought to shore. The victim suffered from hypothermia and was transported to hospital by Haliburton County Paramedic Service (HCPS)." They were later transferred to a Toronto-area trauma centre to receive further treatment.

According to a Jan. 20 media release, officers were continuing to investigate, and reminded residents, cottagers, contractors and any other potential ice surface users, to stay clear of area water surfaces "as very little ice, if any, has formed due to abnormal weather conditions.

"The lack of ice and vast areas of open water is creating possible dangerous situations for you and responding emergency services personnel. Every year, needless preventable tragedies occur on water and ice surfaces, and emergency services are counting on you to make that decision to stay off the ice," OPP said.

They added any ice surface user must remember that no ice is safe ice and that any travel on the current water/ice surface conditions - if any ice should even exist - should only be done while wearing proper survival clothing, having a fully charged cell phone, and telling a friend, neighbour, family member or work supervisor, of their destination.

Haliburton County Snowmobile Association (HCSA) president, Neil Vanderstoop, reiterated, "no ice is safe ice. If it's not staked, don't go on it."

People can check out the list of staked lakes on the HCSA website.

Vanderstoop said conditions in the bush are also challenging. "We're still breaking through all kinds of places."

He also asked sledders to abide by speed limits, and stop signs.

Vehicle break-ins

OPP said they are also currently investigating multiple thefts from vehicles in Minden Hills.

On Jan. 17, they said they responded to numerous calls reporting thefts from vehicles that had occurred overnight. Suspects entered vehicles in the areas of Ritchie Falls Road and Sedgwick Road.

"Suspects entered the vehicles and had stolen numerous items from the unlocked vehicles," police said.

Haliburton OPP is asking residents in these areas to check their security cameras for any suspicious activity and report it to police.

Vehicle owners are reminded to always lock your vehicles and close the windows. Unlocked vehicles, and vehicles with valuables visible, are the first vehicles targeted. Perpetrators incur more risk of being observed, being identified, and getting caught if they are forced to physically break into vehicles," OPP said.

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Peterborough chosen for health unit HQ

By Mike Baker

Peterborough has been selected as the head office for the new Haliburton Kawartha Lakes Northumberland Peterborough health unit (HKNB). However, board chair Ron Black – picking up on comments made by County representative Cec Ryall – said he considers it more of a "communications centre."

Following the Jan. 1 merger between the Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Pine Ridge district health unit (HKPR) and Peterborough Public Health (PPH), Black said the new conjoined board had to decide where its legal address would be.

The organization has four offices – in Peterborough, Lindsay, Port Hope and Haliburton. The board opted for the Peterborough site because it's the only location it owns, though Black felt it held little significance.

"We have a very decentralized system here… we have managers working out of all four locations. The fact we can, and will be, moving meetings around, I don't know if we want to say we have a head office… communications centre may be more appropriate," Black said.

Ryall endorsed the move, saying it "makes good sense." The former HKPR headquarters were in Port Hope.

It was confirmed during a Jan. 15 meeting that an existing $2.5 million mortgage on the property located at 185 King St. in Peterborough was being paid off in full by the provincial government as part of the merger. The estimated $8 million asset will be wholly owned by the health unit.

Merger 'smooth'

Tony Yu, lead consultant at Toronto-based Sense and Nous, delivered an update on the merger – telling the board there has been lots of good work completed over the past eight months in anticipation of partnering.

He said the top priority is getting staff acclimated to new systems to ensure programs and services aren't impacted, while he said discussions with non-unionized personnel over harmonizing job descriptions and employee terms and conditions was ongoing. That process will also happen with unionized staff, though Yu noted it needs to be initiated by union representatives. As yet, no discussions have taken place.

Angela Burton, representing consultancy firm Prosci – hired to advise on the merger – said some training had already been done with department heads and program managers to assist with integration, with more to be done in the coming months.

"Change is inevitable with something like this… [to be successful] it's about applying a process and set of tools to lead the [staff] side of that change - identifying what do people need to know and be able to do to continue their job without interruption of services," Burton said.

Dr. Natalie Bocking, HKPR's medical officer of health, and Dr. Thomas Piggott, medical officer of health with PPH, were both at last week's meeting and are collectively leading the new unit for now. A decision on leadership was discussed in-camera.

HKNB communications lead, Ashley Beaulac, said there was no information to share yet on their future. She noted talks were progressing to identify a new name and brand - with HKNB serving as the legal title only - with five options currently being considered.

"We hope to announce the new name in the coming months and a new brand identity to follow afterwards," Beaulac said, with consultancy firm Trajectory Inc. leading that initiative.

Beaulac confirmed there are no plans to add or change services at the Haliburton office, adding "there is a commitment to maintain that office space/presence within the community."

HKNB board chair Ron Black speaks at a Jan. 15 board meeting, flanked by co-medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

Why the need?

After Black noted HKNB was receiving more money than any other entity to merge, with the province kicking in approximately $10.1 million, Ryall pondered why the government was pushing for this, and what it stood to gain.

With both organizations struggling financially to maintain services, he asked if this would create greater financial efficiencies and improve the money situation locally. Yu said he felt it was more centred around improving capacity of public health.

"The experience over the pandemic in terms of the strain placed on staff, the strain on capacity and the lack of back-up or cover… I think is one of the key drivers," Yu said. "One of the policy objectives stated [by the province] is they want to see multiple medical leadership [personnel] as back-up to provide coverage within every single health unit. This year one funding signals that commitment – I think the province is putting its money where its mouth is in terms of building capacity."

Black said both health units were challenged through COVID with staffing.

"This commitment from the province will help us to improve the services we provide and put some resiliency behind the organization so that when we have a future public emergency, we have the resources we need in place.

"We have three years to work through budgets and try to right-size our organization. It may result in cost savings – that's certainly in our window of expectations at some point. But I don't think, ultimately, that was the purpose of the merger," Black said

At the time of announcing the commitment to merge, the two health units committed to continuing all existing programs and maintaining existing staff levels, with HKPR employing about 170 people and PPH 130 people.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. Meetings begin at 9:00 am unless otherwise noted.
The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- January 30 - Regular Council Meeting
- February 4 - Special Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal.

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- Snowshoe walk drop-in program on Tuesdays from 1:00pm-4:00pm. Stop by the Administration desk to register each week.

NOTICE: PUBLIC MEETING - PROPOSED CHANGES TO FEES AND CHARGES BY-LAW

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2025 during its Regular Council Meeting regarding Proposed changes to the Township's Fees and Charges By-law. Proposed changes are included in the following Schedules:

- Schedule A Building – simplified wording for building permit minimum fee
- Schedule B Administration
- Schedule C Fire
- Schedule D Cultural Centre Programs and Facilities
- Schedule F Planning Department Fees
- Schedule H Community Services Programs & Facilities
- Schedule I Water, Sewer, and Landfill

Members of the public **wishing to participate may attend in-person or join electronically.** Registration is required for electronic participants at admin@mindenhills.ca.

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   - **Thursday, January 30 @ 7 PM online** Email lfitton@mindenhills.ca to register

WINTER PARKING

From Nov 1st to Apr 30th overnight parking is illegal from midnight to 8:00 AM on township roadways and parking lots. Parking in the turning circle of a cul-de-sac is prohibited during all hours. Vehicles parked in areas that interferes with snow removal will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense.

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AH mayor talks priorities for new year

By Mike Baker

Algonquin Highlands mayor Liz Danielsen said her number one priority for the township's 2025 budget is to deliver as little an increase as possible to residents' tax bills.

Council will convene to deliberate municipal priorities for the year ahead on Feb. 27 and 28. With some major projects both wrapping and coming up, including development at Stanhope Municipal Airport, the construction of a new public works garage, and consideration for a parking master plan, Danielsen said it will be an important year for the township.

Other focuses include investing in municipal docks and landings, management and implementation of the new license of occupation policy (LoO) and short-term rental bylaw (STR), and looking for ways to support affordable housing projects.

Department heads met with council in late November to discuss projects for the new year, with public works manager, Adam Thorn, saying there's still much work to do at the municipal airport. Last year, the township replaced emergency runway and taxiway lighting, did some work to the main floor of the terminal building, and installed on-site security cameras.

In 2025, Thorn hopes to investigate options to have Hangar D repaired and brought back into operation - it's been closed since 2020. Work will also wrap-up on the new $3.7 million public works garage in Stanhope.

Algonquin Highlands mayor Liz Danielsen said improvements at Stanhope Municipal Airport will be discussed during 2025 budget talks. *File*.

Danielsen predicts it will be a big year for the parks, recreation and trails department, with a new parking master plan considered.

"We will be considering the development of a plan that can accommodate some of our boat launches and areas where water-access only properties can have improved parking areas," Danielsen said.

With upgrades partially completed at the Russell Landing, and public consultation complete for works considered at Fletcher Lake, department manager, Chris Card, said the plan this year is to progress those two projects before turning attention to the Crozier Lake and Raven Lake landings.

The bylaw department has requested a set of Kevlar vests for bylaw officers and a new pet-safe containment unit for animal transfer. The township signed an agreement with Paws at Killara Station last summer, with the facility serving as the municipal pound.

Township staff will begin planning for the next municipal election, to be held Oct. 26, 2026, while communications officer, Chad Ingram, said one of his top priorities will be developing a new volunteer recruitment and recognition program. In the fall, council opted to disband its recreation committee citing poor participation from the public.

With the new LoO, shoreline preservation, and STR regulations causing a stir in recent years, Danielsen said the township intends to press forward with full implementation of new rules in 2025.

There will also be a renewed effort to support the development of affordable housing in Algonquin Highlands – last February, council discussed potential options with Habitat for Humanity Peterborough and Kawartha Region about allocating land for a new build in the community.

"It's my hope we can work on some modest housing development," Danielsen said.

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ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS NEWS

Phase two at DRC

Algonquin Highlands is looking to fast-track an application for federal money to offset the cost of adding air conditioning, upgrading heating, and installing an electric vehicle charging station at the Dorset Recreation Centre.

The township's project manager, Brian Mulholland, told council Jan. 16 funds are available through Natural Resources Canada's Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure program. It's a cost-sharing initiative, with Mulholland applying for $55,000 to install a tandem Level 2 and 3 charger and complete the facility upgrades. The township would be required to kick in approximately $86,800.

Projects are considered on a first come, first served basis and, upon approval, charging stations must be installed by March 31.

"It's sort of exciting – we've been looking at doing the upgrades to the building already, but some of the costs can be incorporated into this application. It's like two birds with one stone," Mulholland said. "The challenge is the timeline."

Given the tight turnaround, Mulholland asked council if it would consider waiving the township's usual procurement process for projects and instead issue the work to Muskoka-based Gonneau Building Group, who completed the $1.6 million redevelopment of the rec centre last year. Council concurred.

Mulholland said he's treating the project as a second phase of the DRC redevelopment.

Council had already earmarked $290,000 for additional work at the facility, so the township's costs would place no additional pressure on the 2025 budget, treasurer Jean Hughes said, with those deliberations to begin next month.

Transport Canada chimes in

Transport Canada has given telecommunications giant Rogers six months to rectify issues with a recently installed cell tower near Stanhope Municipal Airport.

The 90-metre structure, located at 1089 MacBrien Rd., was approved in 2022 and installed last March, as part of the Eastern Ontario Regional Network cell gap project.

Shortly after it went into service, the township received multiple complaints from pilots expressing concern over the tower's proximity to the municipal airport, at 1168 Stanhope Airport Rd. Planner Sean O'Callaghan said issues stemmed around visibility, with aviators saying the tower wasn't appropriately lit and blended into the background terrain.

A plane flies over Stanhope airport during the last fly-in. *File*.

O'Callaghan noted there were delays in hydro connectivity at the site, meaning it was raised late last winter without appropriate lighting. He said it was "a number of weeks" before it went into service. After receiving complaints, O'Callaghan issued a NOTAM – a notice to pilots highlighting a potential hazard – and followed up with Transport Canada.

The federal authority has directed Rogers to paint the structure to ensure it stands out during the day. O'Callaghan said it will be a mix of red and white. The feds also suggested adding daytime lights to the structure for additional protection.

"I'm glad to see the concerns pilots raised have been addressed in some form," said mayor Liz Danielsen. *(Algonquin Highlands news compiled by Mike Baker).*

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HIGHLANDS EAST NEWS

Proposed new landfill hours

Highlands East council is looking to endorse new landfill hours after discussing the file Jan. 14.

For Bicroft waste disposal site, it means that from May 1 to Sept. 30, it would be open Wednesday 2-6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Winter hours (Oct. 1 to April 30) would be Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mumford waste disposal site summer hours would be Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Winter hours would be Tuesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For Glamorgan (Gooderham) transfer station, it's summer hours of Monday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and winter hours of Monday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monmouth (Tory Hill) waste disposal site summer hours would be Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and winter hours of Monday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hwy. 28 waste disposal site summer hours would be Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Winters are Monday, Friday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Council will seek public input before proceeding.

Fire department gets $41K grant

Fire chief Chris Baughman said his department had been successful in getting a fire protection grant worth more than $41,000. The money is from the ministry of the solicitor general, office of the fire marshal.

Baughman said the ministry had identified cancer prevention and technology as key needs.

He said they'd spend it on: finishing a previously-initiated project of installing exhaust extraction fans in all fire stations; purchasing two bunker gear dryers as an extractor was previously purchased in 2024; upgrading to particulate filtering flash hoods; and purchasing fire decontamination wipes for quick on-scene clean-up as they have very limited shower facilities.

Deputy mayor Cec Ryall thanked Baughman and said, "any time you put $41,000 into the kind of operation you run, it's going to create positive things."

Highlands East council met Jan. 14. *File.*

Herlihey Park update

Public works operations manager, Perry Kelly, said consultant, Thomas Contracting, is making progress on completing Herlihey Park.

He said fencing had been installed, there had been some preparation and excavation on the beach area, the walking trails had been mapped and marked out, trimming, brushing and chipping of material is underway and excavation of all walking trails has started.

"Very happy to this point with the work that is being completed and I'm excited to see once the snow goes away how everything is going to evolve," Kelly said.

Lewis Road surface treatment

Lewis Road resident, Doran Hart, presented to the meeting.

He said he represented about 20 property owners from Colborne Creek to the boat launch.

They want to be considered separately from other Lewis Road residents when it comes to surface treatment of the road.

He said there was a movement by some to have Lewis Road paved, including a change.org petition. However, he and his group, on the last 870 metres, are against paving the road.

Among a list of concerns, he said "speeding is of great concern with a hard surface road. This section of the road is quite hilly given its short length – there are several hidden driveways at the top of a couple of hills. This coupled with the properties being close to the road, presents safety risks for children, pets, pedestrians, and cyclists."

He added they are in an area designated as a provincially significant wetland. They are worried about more birds being killed with faster traffic, as well as turtles, otters, beavers, fishers, deer, pine martens and muskrats. There is also concern about increased runoff from a paved road, and that paving will increase activity around the boat launch.

"The majority of those who wish to have the road paved do not live in this last section of Lewis Road. Therefore, it is fair to say that those individuals would not be negatively impacted if the last section between Colborne Creek and the boat launch were left as is," Hart said.

Council received the delegation for information only. *(Highlands East news compiled by Lisa Gervais).*

TLDSB launches kindergarten registration for 2025/26

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) has opened its registration portal for parents looking to sign-up their kids for junior and senior kindergarten for the 2025/26 school year.

The board says children "develop a strong foundation in all areas" in kindergarten, with an emphasis on play-based learning and small group instruction in language, math, physical education and the arts.

"The evidence is clear – experiences in early childhood have a major impact on future learning, work, health, and social emotional make-up," the board said. "Your child will… develop socially and emotionally through interaction with their peers and educators, who guide them."

Kindergarten registration is for children turning four this year. There are classes at Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden, Stuart Baker Elementary School in Haliburton, and at Cardiff and Wilberforce elementary schools.

While September may seem far away, TLDSB communications lead Carolynne Bull said, in a release to media, that it's important for the board to know as early as possible how many students will be enrolled to help with planning staffing and classroom space. To register, visit ereg.tldsb.ca. *(Mike Baker).*

A MESSAGE FROM
Haliburton Highlands CHAMBER of COMMERCE
Members-Only Benefit Alert
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The Chamber Plan offers robust benefits at a reasonable cost for organizations from 1 - 50 employees.
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Haliburton Highlands CHAMBER of COMMERCE

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OUR MISSION

To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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Science clear on deer

By Lisa Gervais

For a while on Monday morning, Monika Melichar of Woodlands Wildlife Sanctuary thought a deer that had to be euthanized after a vehicle-deer collision in front of the new A&W was 'Mooch.'

That is the name affectionately given to a young deer that has been looking for hand-outs in the Independent parking lot in Haliburton.

By all reports, the rather cute-looking deer is getting exactly what it wants; plenty of apples, carrots and other food from shoppers. Some are even petting it.

In doing so, they are taking the 'wild' out of this wildlife.

'Mooch' could have easily been the deer that was killed following that collision en route to his favourite restaurant. It's likely the animal that was killed was headed to a human feeding area.

I'm not immune to a cute-looking deer, but I have never fed one in the wild and never will.

I have read so many Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry reports on why we should not feed deer. I have written numerous stories in my time here at *The Highlander*. And, yet, the message does not seem to be getting across to some people.

So, let's go over it… again.

Feeding deer the wrong food can cause digestive problems, such as bloating, diarrhea, and even death.

Feeding deer can lead to overpopulation, which can harm the deer and other wildlife.

Feeding deer can increase the risk of disease transmission among deer and other animals.

Feeding deer can attract predators, such as wolves and coyotes, which can increase the risk of death for deer.

Feeding deer can increase the risk of vehicle collisions as deer cross roads to get to feeders.

Feeding deer, and then suddenly stopping, can cause stress-related deaths.

I can't figure out why people can't appreciate wildlife from a distance. It isn't hard to keep household waste, compost, and pet food out of reach of wild animals. If you really need to see them, instead of coaxing them with human food, improve the natural habitat on your property to attract wildlife. I'd rather they eat your trees and shrubs than corn. And, of course, work with your neighbours to help keep wild animals wild.

I understand the mentality of feeders. They think the animal is cute. They like to see them up close and personal. They are worried the deer are starving in winter. They think they are saving their lives.

They are not. An average of a deer a day – but usually more than one - are killed in Haliburton County, often crossing a road to get to a feeding area. Feeding them corn will eventually kill them. How in the world will they ever be able to go back to the wild, and hunt and gather like a normal deer should, when people are hand feeding them apples and carrots. They do not stand a chance.

We have a huge problem. Dysart et al has tried to help by implementing a bylaw preventing feeding. People who think they know better continue to ignore it. Bylaw resources are limited in terms of tracking down all the bylaw breakers and fining them. Others are employing technicalities to get around the rules.

We, as a community, must come together on this issue once and for all.

The science is clear. Do not feed deer.

NATURE'S CALLING

Rediscovering ice fishing

By Toni Cooper

This year feels like a fresh start for me, as it's the first time in a long while that I've ventured out onto the ice for some fishing so early in the season.

On Jan. 9, I had an incredible opportunity to join 12 amazing women for four unforgettable days on Lake Nipissing. What an experience.

I grew up surrounded by ice fishing, but I've delved deeper into the sport in the past two years and spent much more time on the ice. Rediscovering this passion has been a rewarding journey.

We arrived on Thursday around noon in stunning weather, setting the perfect tone for our adventure. We were booked with a tour company, and they were phenomenal. They assisted us in unloading our gear from the vehicles and expertly loaded everything into sleighs. Once we arrived at our huts, they helped us unload our equipment and had pre-drilled holes ready. Their support made the entire experience seamless and enjoyable.

We wasted no time unpacking and getting our lines into the water. Thursday was an incredible day for fishing, with the fish biting like crazy. A few of us caught our first walleye through the ice, and Nikki, Cassie, Lisa, and I couldn't contain our excitement.

We were up and dropping lines Friday morning before the sun was up. What an amazing sunrise we got to see. What a great way to start the day. By 9 a.m., the bites had slowed down, so we reeled in our lines and called it a morning. Lisa and Nikki filleted our fish while Cassie and I cooked them. There is nothing better than starting your day with a fresh meal.

Friday, the bite was slow, so we decided to leave the hut and get into some shenanigans on the ice. A slight change of pace was just what we needed to shake things up. It was a blast; just the four of us ladies, sliding around on the ice, being silly, and laughing until our cheeks hurt. The fun and laughter were exactly what we needed to make the day unforgettable.

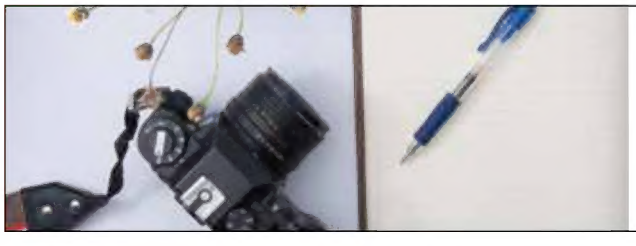
It had been a long day of fishing, and when we finally settled into bed, the lake was anything but quiet. This was my first time sleeping on ice, and wow; the sounds were crazy. The cracking and strange noises that almost sounded like whales had me a little freaked out. But Nikki reassured us, reminding us that we were sitting on 18 inches of solid black ice. Still, no ice is 100 per cent safe, so always check before venturing out. It's better to be cautious.

Saturday was similar to Friday; we had lots of fun. On Saturday afternoon, all 12 ladies fished out of the huts in a vast circle. It was so great watching each other catch fish, helping each other bring the fish in, taking pictures, and laughing. What a memory to have.

I am so grateful to Lisa Davies for putting it together. Bringing a dozen amazing women together to reach out, support, and laugh with each other was truly something special. The energy, the camaraderie; it was an unforgettable experience.

Remember to check the regulations for your fishing zone before heading out, and enjoy the outdoors.

Correction: In the Jan. 16 edition of *The Highlander*, in the story 'This kid isn't horsing around' we incorrectly said Tavia Harris is from Minden. She lives in Haliburton. Last year was her first showing on the Trillium Circuit, not her second. We apologize for these errors.



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SEND US YOUR OPINION!
Send them to editor@thehighlander.ca

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

A lone fisherman drops a line into Head Lake. *Photo by Justin Belanger.*

LETTERS

Get past the fear of change

Dear editor,

'Waste not, want not' (Jan. 16).

Lisa Gervais is spot on. Rising taxes demand a serious look at the amalgamation of Haliburton County's municipalities.

Look what Doug Ford did to Toronto. He cut city council in half, down to 25 plus a mayor, in the face of strong opposition. I didn't agree with his overreach, but still, the city of 6.4 million continues to operate with reduced representation.

Compare that to the 20,000 permanent population of Haliburton County, which is served by 24 councillors, mayors and deputy mayors. The mayors and deputies also sit on the County council. It's crazy.

Many of the councillors are over 70; a lot are acclaimed. Cut the number to seven - four councillors and a mayor and deputy from the permanent population, and one representing cottagers. Then the job could be decently paid - attracting a younger group of councillors. And think of the cut in bureaucracy.

Haliburton County repeatedly votes Conservative - so maybe get Ford to step in. Or would he be afraid of offending local voters, unlike in Toronto?

Let's get past the fear of change, and do the right thing.

Carol Town
Hamilton and Minden Hills

Fireworks in Algonquin Highlands

Dear editor,

Congratulations to Algonquin Highlands on revisiting the fireworks discussion in their municipality.

I believe their survey results, with nearly two thirds of respondents saying they would support a complete ban, would be representative of the entire County, not to mention the province and most likely the country.

I hope they enact a complete ban rather than continue to allow them on Canada Day. We are in an environmental crisis, if the wildfires in California aren't a clear enough example. We do not need the added pollution of fireworks, not to mention the effect they have on some people as well as animals, both wild and domestic.

Maybe it's time the rest of our County representatives stop just talking about fireworks and do something as well. If the survey results are correct, in a democracy doesn't the majority rule?

Paul Hewitt
Minden

Extreme cold a hazard to walking students

Dear editor,

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) remains steadfast in their belief that children in Haliburton County who live within 1.6 km of their elementary school and 3.2 km of their secondary school do not encounter hazards on their walk to and from school.

As residents of the County, we know this isn't true. We have a magnitude of hazards that our youngest citizens must face daily on their commutes. Parents, community members and even local leaders have tried to tell TLDSB that they have made an error in their decision to remove transportation services to these students.

This week is bitterly cold. The type of weather that could result in frostbite and hypothermia. Yet another hazard our kids must endure. In the Highlands, extreme cold can begin in November and carry well into March.

When asked if TLDSB considered extreme cold a hazard, they responded that extreme cold only occurs on a "handful of days" and that it's a parent's responsibility to drive their child, or to find a ride for their child if it's not safe to walk. TLDSB said they would not consider the fact that some families in our County don't own or have access to a vehicle. It's simply not TLDSB's responsibility.

These days, it seems TLDSB decision-makers take on as little responsibility as their procedures and policies will allow.

It also appears that student safety is not at the forefront of TLDSB's decision-making processes. Surely, they can find a way to cut costs without endangering the lives of dozens of children throughout our community.

TLDSB leaders - you are enabled by and accountable to the Ontario public. Our children deserve equal access to education.

Aurora McGinn
Minden

Yasmine Schoenke taps along to music at Aging Together as Community's 'Beat Goes On' event in West Guilford Sept. 14.

SEPTEMBER

That's a wrap
Highlands Opera Studio concluded its 2024 season with the Rossini production *The Barber of Seville*, which ran for four shows Aug. 22 to 26. The brainchild of Richard Margison and Valerie Kuinka, the troupe celebrated its 17th season in 2024. The company offers advanced operatic training to emerging professionals and, each summer, has trainees perform a number of operas and concerts in the community.

Take me out to the ball game
Haliburton County baseball prospect Austin Boylan has battled through a year of adversity, and been awarded an NCAA Division 1 scholarship with the North Dakota Bisons for the 2024-2028 seasons. The 18-year-old, who ruptured his ACL in summer 2023, has played third base for much of his career, and is also training in the outfield. However, he said his strength is batting. "As long as I hit, they'll find a place for me. I'm fast, stocky, and have a good arm," Boylan said, noting his next goal is to be drafted by a Major League Baseball club.

STR rollout
It's been a long, winding road as the County of Haliburton and its four townships prepared to usher in new short-term rental applications, with Highlands East the first to get its licensing software online Sept. 30. Algonquin Highlands followed in early October, with Dysart and Minden Hills launching by Oct. 14. The townships will begin full enforcement of new STR rules this summer.

Reconcili-action
While wearing orange T-shirts recognizes children who never returned home from residential schools, or survived colonial institutions, what's really needed is reconcile-action, Larry O'Connor told students and staff at Haliburton School of Art + Design during National Truth and Reconciliation Day Sept. 30. "Our ancestors, our family members went there (to residential schools). Some came home, some didn't," O'Connor said, noting the shirts recognize the many lives lost during the 150-year-old residential school system.

OCTOBER

Leave deer alone
County resident Phil Primavera says he'll likely never stop feeding deer at his Haliburton Feed and Seed location on Mallard Road, no matter how many tickets he receives from Dysart et al's bylaw department. The municipality rolled out new legislation in July 2023 prohibiting deer feeding in most of Haliburton village, with violators facing a $150 fine per offence. Primavera launched a petition against the bylaw, signed by around 600 people. "I don't think it's in the best interest of the deer, the town, or the public," Primavera said.

Art on tour
Peter Emmink and Joyce Pruysers-Emmink celebrated another successful the Studio Tour Haliburton Highlands event, which ran two weekends Oct. 5-6 and Oct. 12-13. The 37th iteration of the tour featured 29 new and returning artists working in textile and fabric art, painting, leatherwork, glasswork, fine jewellery, photography, quilting, pottery, metal art, ceramics and more.

On the map
The Haliburton County Huskies were recognized as one of the country's top dogs when it comes to hockey, cracking the Canadian Junior Hockey League's weekly power rankings highlighting the top 20 amateur teams in the country. The team debuted in 14th place, climbing as high as sixth during a five-week spell on the list. The team is currently third in the Ontario Junior Hockey League's East Conference with 29 wins and 11 losses on the season.

The year in business
The Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC) processed 53 loans for Highlands businesses in 2024, totalling just over $6.5 million – helping to save or create 443 local jobs. Speaking at the organization's 39th annual general meeting Oct. 3, loans officer Sara Joanu said it has been a successful fiscal year. "We did see a significant growth in the value of dollars dispersed," she said, up about $1.5 million from last year. At year-end, HCDC had 147 active loans totalling $16.7 million. Since 1985, the organization has assisted 2,373 businesses in the County to the tune of about $109 million.

Families return from their trip to the pumpkin patch during Fall Fest at Abbey Gardens Oct. 5.

Introducing 'The Haliburton'
Community members formed a guard of honour along Mountain Street in Haliburton Oct. 19, welcoming the Second World War-era M4 'Easy Eight' Sherman tank back to its new-and-improved home beside the Haliburton Legion. The antique military vehicle was refurbished over the summer, with about 30 Highlanders sinking approximately 1,200 volunteer hours into the rebuild. Legion president Mike Waller said the 80-year-old machine has been renamed 'The Haliburton'.

Celebrating community
John Watson chose Haliburton County five years ago, to be close to nature and "a great community of people." He was embraced back on Oct. 25, being named Highlander of the Year by the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce. As Dysart's environmental waste manager, and a trainer with Sweat Social Health and Fitness, Watson said, "I just feel very lucky in both of my jobs that I get to help and contribute to our community." Eight businesses and four further individuals were honoured at the awards.

NOVEMBER

The Haliburton Remembrance Day parade Nov. 11 made its way from the Legion to the Cenotaph on Highland Street, with more than 100 people in attendance.

Record campaign
The Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation's 'Here for You in the Highlands' campaign ended the way it started Nov. 1 – with another $500,000 from the Cockwell family and Haliburton Forest. Campaign chair, Tayce Wakefield, said the Cockwell's overall $1 million donation brought the Foundation effort to an end – having raised more than $6.225 million. The money went towards new CT, mammography, ultrasound and x-ray units for the Haliburton hospital.

Surge in demand
Tina Jackson, executive director of the Central Food Network servicing Wilberforce and Cardiff, said the organization's two food banks are now serving 57 more people on average each month compared with pre-pandemic levels. She said they are seeing, on average, 307 monthly visits – 100 more than in 2019. "Not only are more people needing access to a food bank, but people walking through our door need help more frequently," Jackson said. "This is not sustainable." The food bank doesn't receive any regular government funding and is largely supported through community donations.

Haliburton goes Hollywood
Camp Kandalore in Algonquin Highlands served as the backdrop of an upcoming major Hollywood feature, by Blumhouse Productions, with filming taking place in November and December. The movie is slated for theatrical release and has the working title 'Mysterium'. American filmmaker Scott Derrickson, known for his work on horror flicks *Sinister*, *The Black Phone*, *Deliver Us from Evil*, and *The Exorcism of Emily Rose* will direct, with Jason Blum and Robert Cargill serving as producers.

Postal strike
More than 55,000 Canada Post workers nationwide went on a full strike Nov. 15, shutting down the country's postal system. President of CUPW local 564 covering Haliburton County, Doug Ford, said workers are fighting for equal pay for all employees, more permanent full-time and part-time positions, and greater job security. They have been without a contract since Dec. 31, 2023. Following a weeks-long standoff, postal workers were mandated back to work Dec. 17 without a new deal, with negotiations to begin again in May.

Done deal
The years-long battle between property developer Paul Wilson and members of the Friends of Grass Lake over a proposed build off Peninsula Road in Haliburton has concluded, with an agreement to reduce the number of residential units ratified by the Ontario Land Tribunal Nov. 25. Originally, the project was to feature 88 units across four lots on the lake's western shore. The new agreement is for 38 units – a 35-unit apartment-style building and three single-family homes. "My objective is to wrap this up in the next three or four years," Wilson said.

DECEMBER

Councillor breach
Minden Hills integrity commissioner, Tony Fleming, ruled that coun. Tammy McKelvey breached two sections of the Municipal Act's code of conduct when venturing onto private property to investigate an alleged illegal development in May. While Fleming recommending sanctioning McKelvey, council opted to accept the report for information only, choosing not to punish the councillor.

Police stats
Calls for service to the Haliburton Highlands OPP dropped about seven per cent in 2024, though interim detachment commander, Mike Cavanagh, said there's been a 15.7 per cent increase to the number of Criminal Code and Provincial Statute charges laid. The detachment processed 3,279 complaints from Jan. 1 to Nov. 30 – down from 3,522 last year.

New face at helm
Highlands East mayor Dave Burton said he was "truly humbled" to be elected warden of Haliburton County for 2025, beating Minden Hills mayor Bob Carter to the position. He replaces Algonquin Highlands mayor Liz Danielsen, who served six successive terms as warden.

Merger approved
The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit (HKPR) is moving ahead with a voluntary merger with Peterborough Public Health (PPH) – with the Ontario government committing $10.1 million to support the partnership. The merger went ahead effective Jan. 1, 2025.

Dysart stepping in
Dysart et al has applied for a special exemption through the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) to take over demolition of the Wigamog Inn property. Tear down began in April 2023, with about a dozen outbuildings felled, but work has been paused since that summer, pending environmental and species at-risk reviews. Early quotes to complete the work, should Dysart get the go ahead, are around $800,000.

New docs
The Haliburton Highlands is preparing to welcome two new family physicians in early 2025, with Dr. Mimi Van Der Leden joining the Kinmount and District Health Centre full-time in February and Dr. Sharysse Kayoumedjian taking a part-time role at the Haliburton Family Medical Centre in March. The Kinmount facility has opened a new waitlist for residents who don't have a family doctor.

Brothers Saif Bhanwadia and Sohail Khoja at A&W Haliburton. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

A&W opens doors at Haliburton location

By Lisa Gervais

Brothers Saif Bhanwadia and Sohail Khoja – along with business partner Rahim Gilani – say the new A&W franchise in Haliburton has been warmly welcomed.

They opened this past weekend in the Hops Drive plaza area.

The two are from the Oshawa area and said the Gilani Group has seven A&Ws, the nearest in Beaverton.

They have relocated temporarily and have brought a team from the GTA to get the fast-food franchise up-and-running, but are looking to hire additional local staff.

"We just wanted to give the guests a proper experience to start with; knowing what to expect because it is a new location," Khoja said of the soft opening.

Bhanwadia added, "the love the community has given us since we opened is so good to see. Usually when it's an opening, it's stressful, but the last three days (Saturday, Sunday, Monday), we were not stressed at all because every guest had a smile on their face and has been welcoming.

"I think they were waiting for it a long time."

They said they opted to start with the soft launch Jan. 18 – after only receiving occupancy the day before.

"Saturday morning, we were up and running," Khoja said. The brothers plan to be in town another couple of weeks to ensure things are running smoothly before they leave the franchise in the hands of a manager and staff.

They plan to "build a team with the community." They will monitor monthly staffing with an expectation they will have more hires for the summer. They said they would bring experience from other stores to make staffing decisions.

Khoja said, "this is for Haliburton. Because when we opened the doors… I think it was the fourth or fifth guest who said they had been waiting for 60 years for this kind of thing. So, this community needed something like this. It's amazing to see the love."

When the store was forced to close Tuesday, they said customers were understanding with "not a single guest saying any bad words or anything like that. That's what the community is all about."

They added customer service will be their main focus. They also view the community as part of their extended family.

The A&W is part of a new plaza that will include a gas station and dollar store. It is not known when the other two businesses will open their doors.

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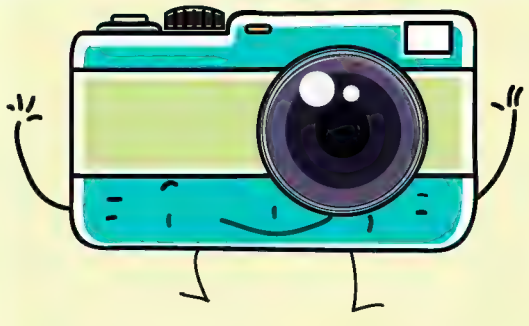

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Aging together, and thriving, as one community

By Mike Baker

With Aging Together as Community Haliburton Highlands (ATAC) now into its third year, co-founder Bonnie Roe said she's proud of the things the organization has done to foster connection and improve life for seniors in the County.

Born out of a desire to educate the public about what she perceived to be a lack of care, and funding, for elderly residents in the province – first through the Haliburton Highlands Long-Term Care Coalition and now ATAC, Roe said her message has always been clear.

"We wanted to take a grassroots community perspective to get people to open up and share their stories, to find out what issues people are living through here and how we can try to help them," Roe said.

2024 was a big year for the organization – last January it hosted a full-day conference at the Pinestone focusing on inspiring creativity and empowering change. Another event was held in June, bringing some of the world's leading voices on dementia research to Haliburton County to help locals understand the disease and how best to cope with it.

After securing a $25,000 grant through the provincial Seniors Community Grant Program in the summer, ATAC hired Connie Wood to serve as its events coordinator. She launched a community survey looking for feedback from people on what they'd like to see from ATAC. The result was a five-part seminar series focusing on important issues for seniors.

The first, held in West Guilford in September, was all about using music to socialize and uplift people, with others investigating the types of healthcare services available in the County and the importance of maintaining an active lifestyle.

Around 75 people gathered at the Minden Community Centre Jan. 15 for a fourth event, with guest speakers offering tips on how to stay safe and connected online.

Haliburton Highlands OPP Const. Joel Imbeau spoke about the growing presence of online and phone scams, offering advice on how people can avoid being duped. He warned that things like caller ID, email addresses and websites can be altered to look legitimate, so never assume a name, or number displayed, is legitimate.

"Hang up and make an outgoing call when someone claims to be a financial institution, service provider, law enforcement, government agency or employer," a recent OPP media release reads. "Never click on links received via text message or email… it's always best to call the company or agency directly."

Imbeau noted legitimate business or government officials will never ask someone to make payments via gift cards or cryptocurrency machines.

"If something does not feel right, it often is not," Imbeau said.

Christine Keenan and Georgia Shank discussed opportunities available for people virtually through the Wellness Connection program, designed to help seniors learn healthy changes and choices to age well. The program is offered through Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

Graeme Soule, systems and technology coordinator with the Haliburton County Public Library, provided some general technology tips and promoted the resurgence of the library's tech assistance program. People can book one-on-one or drop into group sessions at the Minden Hills, Dysart et al, and Wilberforce locations, he said.

"For a lot of people, it's just help setting up new devices – this is a big time for that after the holidays. We also help with updating systems and software, helping people understand and learn how to use different programs," Soule said. "I think this is a service there's a lot of demand for.

"We want to provide a location people know they can come to, somewhere they can trust, to learn something and leave with a bit of a better knowledge of how to get the most out of things they use every day," Soule added.

Graeme Soule, systems and technology coordinator with the Haliburton County Public Library, spoke at an ATAC Haliburton Highlands event Jan. 15. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

County resident Kim Stamp said despite not being a senior, she's attended all seminars so far and has appreciated learning about new things.

"They've been incredible – I've learned how to play the ukulele, inspired after watching someone play *Hotel California* on one at an ATAC event. I've had urban pole walking lessons after learning about it at the health and wellness seminar, and now I'm going to sign up with the library to try and become more computer literate," Stamp said.

Next steps

Next month, ATAC will begin the process of developing its first strategic plan, Roe said. That work is being done in collaboration with Haliburton County Development Corporation.

"Moving forward, we want to be clear about what we really want to achieve, what our goals are," Roe said. "Like any group, we need to look back at where we've been and where we want to go. Not just over the next year – but in three years, five years, and more. We want to make sure ATAC is here for the long haul to keep helping and educating people."

With a core leadership group boasting the likes of Roe, husband Greg, Brigitte Gebauer, Peter Ferri, Wood, Beth Hubbard and Paul Moore, and more than 500 people enrolled in a regular mailout list, Roe feels ATAC is filling a gap in the community.

"I'm really proud of what the team has done – we're getting people involved in our communities, collaborating with different organizations to promote the amazing work and programs they do. Even something like our LGBTQ+ drop-ins we've been having at SIRCH – that's created a place in the community where people feel safe and a sense of belonging," Roe said. "We've come a really long way, but there's still more to come."

Another seminar focusing on strategies to balance support and living independently will take place March 21. For more information, visit agingtogether.ca.

Snowflake doggedly raising money

Mulligans Pub and Patio hosted a fundraising dinner for Snowflake Meadows Jan. 17. People had the option of two seatings for a sit-down roast beef dinner. They had to make a minimum donation of $45 per plate, with proceeds going to the canine rescue organization that has been swamped over recent years. *(Lisa Gervais).*

Top left: Door prize winner, Kristin Withey, pulls the next winning ticket. Top middle: A full dining room excited to get their grub. Top right: Mulligan, the dog, making sure guests were doing well. Middle: Snowflake Meadows owner Kristyn Begbie and Tracey Laframboise. Above: Lana McLeaming, Justin Bull, Leah Bull and Joanne George sit down and share some laughs. Bottom right: Amanda Ellis celebrates her birthday at the fundraiser. *Photos by Justin Belanger.*

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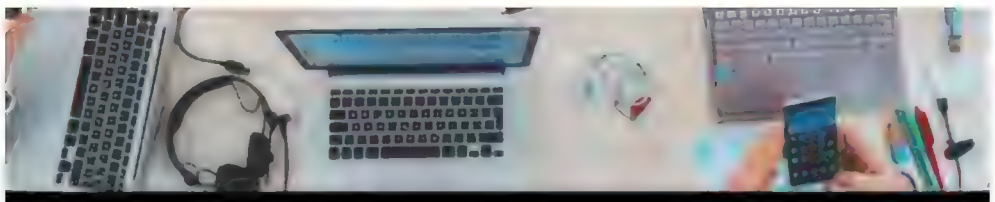

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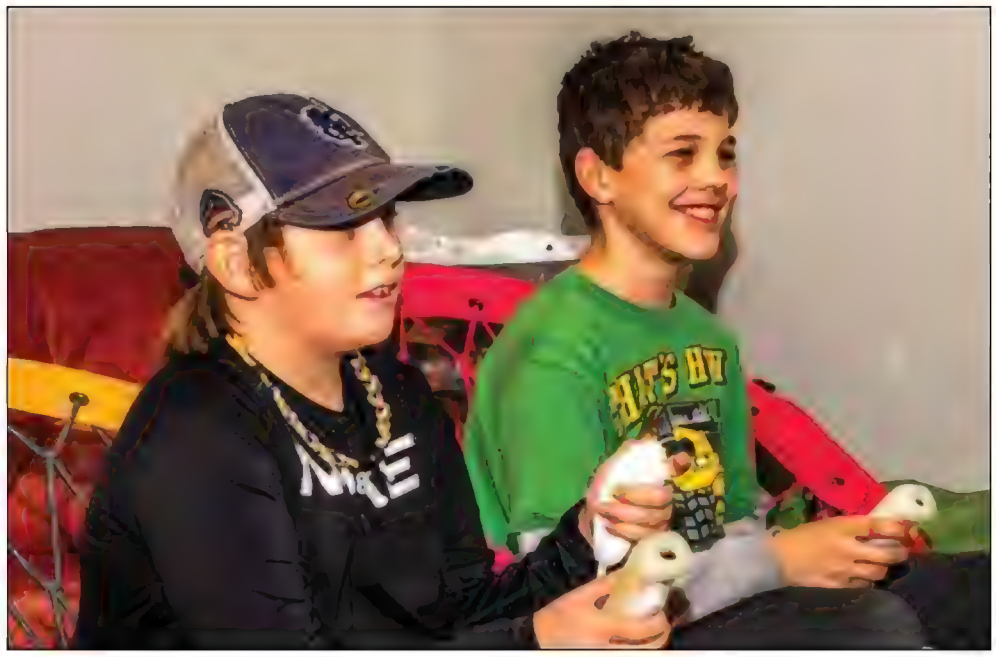

Bridging the gap for youth

The new Bridge Youth Centre held an open house Jan. 18, at its new home at 2 Victoria St. in Haliburton. Co-director, Leanne Young, said "it's our desire that the Bridge provides our local youth positive community, caring mentors, and opportunities to grow in leadership and purpose." She added, "we see the hope and potential in every young person and we are excited to see the youth here have the opportunities to grow in it."

Top: Isaiah Young and a friend playing some video games. Middle: Pastor Ben Peltz talks to the crowd about the importance of the new Bridge Youth Centre as co-directors Kyle and Leanne Young look on. Above: Some of the youth talk about what the centre means to them with CanoeFM reporter Elizabeth Oakley (left). *Photos by Justin Belanger.*

Hitting the ice for winter racing in Minden

By Lisa Gervais

Conditions are “excellent” as the 36th ice racing season gets underway at the Minden fairgrounds Jan. 25, spokesman Jim Carrell says.

“We’ve had cold weather and we’ve had snow.”

The races are organized by the Canadian Automobile Sports Clubs. They work with Minden Kinsmen volunteers, who each year transform the fairgrounds into a winding, frozen-over circuit that draws people from across North America. It’s one of the few dry land locations in the country, and home to ice racing in Ontario.

Weather permitting, the races will run for six weeks, concluding the March 1 weekend.

Last weekend (Jan. 18) saw pre-tech for the cars, Carrell said.

“To get their cars certified to go on the track. They just go over them to see that they comply with the rules, especially the safety rules, such as the seatbelts and the lights and all that sort of thing.”

With a return of a normal winter, Carrell said excitement has been building and they have been getting good entries. They won’t know final numbers until Saturday as some racers register last-minute.

As for anything new and different, Carrell said there are two new classes.

One is a street class. “You can drive your car to the track, cover up the headlights and the taillights with some clear vinyl and put your racing tires on, and go on the track and then drive it home after the event. It’s made for people who don’t have a dedicated race car but can use their street car.”

The other change is reducing the cost for the second driver class. “We’ve always had a second driver class, so two people can share one car. The difference is we’ve reduced the cost on the second driver. If you have the car entered under the first driver, the cost of the second race schedule is cheaper.”

Both are aimed at trying to attract more drivers. Carrell said entries had been down the last five years or so.

A competitor races around the fairgrounds oval. *File*.

“It can’t continue to slide,” Carrell added. “We’re hoping it’s just a byproduct left over from COVID.”

Asked about the fickle weather contributing, he added, “that is also it. When they look out the window and see green grass in January, they think it’s not going to happen: ‘I’m not going to bother to get my car ready.’ It is cause for concern, but we’ll know in the next couple of weeks.”

He said they have had as many as 70-80 drivers a day in the past, but “we’re dropping down to 50, and, unfortunately, with the added cost, because nothing has gotten cheaper, the clubs need about 60 entries just to break even, so that’s where we’re at.”

Back to the track and Kin volunteers have been working hard to get it ready for racers and fans. Carrell estimates he’s already put in 50-60 hours. He is also looking forward to getting behind the wheel himself, as “I really do enjoy it.

“We’re just happy with the way things are. We’re in good shape and we’re just hoping to get some extra entries to help boost things up for the organizing clubs.”

People can register online for all CASC-OR championship events at casc.motorsportreg.com.

A fan guide from the Ice Racing – Minden Facebook page

1. Park your vehicle immediately on entering the gates. Enter gates, turn left, go north (towards the Quonset hut), park, proceed on foot. Only competitor and support vehicles are allowed throughout the fairgrounds.
2. Be aware at all times of race cars and support vehicles - they may not see you. Stay close to a snowbank - keep pets on a leash, kids within arms’ reach.
3. Remain behind the snowbank around the outside of the track while watching races. Racing is dangerous - that’s why there are big, wide, deep snow banks - to protect you.
4. Dress really warm - it’s winter, it’s cold, there may be a wicked wind chill factor.
5. Tread with caution. Bring warm footwear with grippy treads - ice is everywhere underfoot throughout the entire grounds.
6. Hot food and drinks - heated snack bar and heated washrooms on-site.
7. Paramedic - on-site typically in their vehicle parked near track entrance next to snack bar,
8. Help - feel free to speak to any volunteer (those wearing a two-way radio) for assistance.

STARS of the WEEK

JACOB MANNING

Jacob earned recognition for his outstanding positional play. His smart decisions and defensive awareness helped control the flow of both games.

JAXEN CASEY

Despite battling illness, Jaxen delivered a strong performance, highlighted by his physicality and determination, as well as his key goal against the Coyotes.

COLTEN SIMMS

Colten showed strong goaltending, helping with the win and tie against the league's first place team. He had many saves but the highlight was when he successfully shut down Millbrook's penalty shot. *Photos by Tim Tofflemire.*

Jacob Sutton fights off a defender for the puck. *Photo by Justin Belanger.*

U15 LL shine with win and thrilling tie

The U15 Pepper Mill Steak and Pasta House team had an impressive weekend, securing a decisive win over the Kawartha Coyotes White and battling to a thrilling tie against the top-ranked Millbrook Stars Green.

They opened their weekend with a dominant performance against the Kawartha Coyotes White, winning 6-2.

After trailing 1-0 at the end of the first period, the Storm found their rhythm in the second.

Moss Davis started the scoring, quickly followed by a pair of goals from Cambell 'Soupy' McCracken. Jacob 'Sutty' Sutton added two more, while the Coyotes managed just one in response, leaving the Storm with a 5-2 lead heading into the third.

Jaxen Casey capped off the game with a goal in the final period, cementing the victory for the Storm.

Sunday's game against the Millbrook Stars Green, the league's top team, was a showcase of determination and grit. The first two periods were tightly contested, with both teams unable to break through the opposing goaltenders.

The action erupted in the third period. The Stars struck twice early to take a 2-0 lead, but 'Soupy' cut the deficit in half with a crucial goal. Captain Gideon 'Big Man' Borgdorff tied the game moments later with an impressive hard shot that left the goalie no time to react.

The Stars regained the lead, but 'Soupy' delivered late in the period to ensure the game ended in a 3-3 tie. The Storm's resilience and teamwork stood out against tough competition. *(Submitted)*.

SCORE BOARD

Jan. 13
- U15 The Pepper Mill Steak & Pasta House vs Sturgeon 2-2 T

Jan. 14
- U18 Tom Prentice & Sons vs Lindsay 2-2 T

Jan. 16
- U13 Rep Cheryl Smith RE/MAX vs Mariposa 5-2 W

Jan. 17
- U15 Rep Haliburton Timber Mart vs Peterborough Petes 4-4 T
- U18 Tom Prentice & Sons vs Sturgeon 6-2 W

Jan. 18
- U9 MD Haliburton Hockey Haven vs Kawartha 6-3 L
- U11 Car Quest vs Sturgeon 6-4 L
- U15 The Pepper Mill Steak and Pasta House vs Kawartha 6-2 W
- U13 Casey Wells and Geothermal vs Brock 8-1 W
- U9 Sharp Electric vs Brock 2-1 L
- U15 Rep Haliburton Timber Mart vs Kawartha 4-4 T

Jan. 19
- U9 MD Haliburton Hockey Haven vs Millbrook 4-3 W
- U9 Sharp Electric vs Mariposa 3-2 L
- U15 The Pepper Mill Steak and Pasta House vs Millbrook 3-3 T

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Game-winner Kieran Litterick battles for the puck in the Huskies 1-0 win over the Lindsay Muskies Jan. 17. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

Husky returnee blanks Muskies

By Mike Baker

A 23-save shutout from Tyler Hodges propelled the Haliburton County Huskies to a hard-fought 1-0 win over the Lindsay Muskies on Jan. 17, in the latest installment of the Ontario Junior Hockey League's 'Battle of Hwy. 35'.

It was the 19-year-old netminder's first shutout since returning to the Huskies in early December. Through 12 games he's recorded eight wins, three defeats and one overtime loss, with a 2.17 goals against average and .926 save percentage.

After being ambushed by teammates at the final buzzer following a tough road match-up, Hodges felt this was a statement win for a team chasing a top two finish in the East Division. The Huskies currently sit third, eight points back from the Toronto Jr. Canadiens and 13 behind the Trenton Golden Hawks, with one game in-hand.

"That was a huge two points – it's a tight race at the top. We know we have to be almost perfect [if we want to move up]. So, getting the win, seeing the boys really come together and fight for it – it just keeps building momentum at a big stage of the season," Hodges said.

Buoyed by a healthy contingent of travelling supporters, the Huskies took control early – with forwards Ty Petrou, Nathan Poole, and Tai York all testing Muskies goaltender Jason Tremblay, who made 19 saves in the opening frame.

There was constant pressure from the visitors in the second, with Poole ringing the iron on a snapshot from the slot about a minute in. Kieran Litterick, playing in his second game as a Husky following a trade deadline move from the Pickering Panthers, broke the deadlock a few seconds later – lifting the puck over Tremblay after being found by Alex Bradshaw. Nolan Ling earned his first assist with the team on the play.

The Huskies had a great opportunity to extend the lead a few minutes later, Poole turning provider for Chase Del Colombo who couldn't jam the puck home from in-close at the four-minute mark.

Special teams had a chance to show their mettle in the middle frame - while the powerplay ran cold, going scoreless on two opportunities and blanking in four-on-four action, the penalty kill impressed while shutting down three Muskies attempts on the man advantage, two of them without giving up a shot.

Hodges said the team's unrelenting commitment to defence makes his job a lot easier.

"The guys always come in prepared, and they played a really good game in front of me, really protecting me at key moments. There weren't too many big chances, especially on the powerplay," he said.

The netminder stood strong in the third, picking himself up following a late hit by Nole Faulkner after leaving his crease to play the puck, maintaining his shutout.

Huskies 5-4 Wellington

The Huskies kept the in-form Wellington Dukes at arm's length in the standings after a huge 5-4 double overtime win at S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena Jan. 18.

The home side got off to the perfect start in front of a boisterous crowd, with Deandres De Jesus scoring his team-leading 23rd goal of the season with 4:42 on the clock, assisted by York and co-captain Raine Nadeau. Chase Lefebvre, playing in his second game in Minden, doubled the Huskies advantage at 7:15 after being teed up by York and Kaiden Thatcher.

A run of four-straight goals from the Dukes, including a go-ahead tally from former Husky Carson Littlejohn, threatened to sour the afternoon, but York got the blue and white within one with his third of the season 10:14 into the final frame, with Bradshaw and Thatcher recording points on the play. With the ice tilting late on, Petrou blew the roof off with the equalizer at 18:48, assisted by Poole and Ling.

After more than nine minutes of extra hockey, Lefebvre was the hero – beating the impressive Jacob Brown with 46 seconds left on the clock to send the crowd home happy. Declan Bowmaster and Cameron Hankai assisted on the game-winner.

The Huskies are back in action Jan. 24 with a road tilt against the Aurora Tigers, before welcoming the Pickering Panthers to Minden Jan. 25. Puck drop is 4 p.m.

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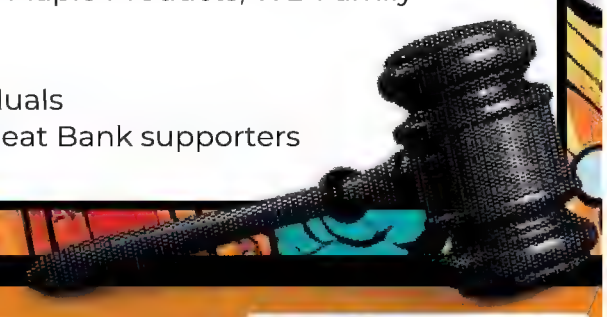

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A piping good time in store for Robbie Burns

By Lisa Gervais

Victoria Bingham isn't Scottish, but that's not going to stop her - or her Haliburton Scottish Country Dancers - from hitting the floor at the Haliburton Legion Saturday as part of Robbie Burns night.

Also known as Robert Burns day, it is a celebration of the life and work of Scottish poet Robert Burns. It takes place on Jan. 25, the anniversary of Burns' birth. It traditionally features: a meal of Scottish food, whisky, and recitals of Burns' poetry and songs; speeches, toasts, and other ways to honor Burns; traditional music, including the tune of *Auld Lang Syne*, wearing a kilt or family tartan, dance, and community spirit.

Bingham said the dancers officially restarted in February 2024, after last year's Robbie Burns night.

"I have a core group of about six to 12 people who show up on a regular basis," Bingham said. "And we've been working hard to learn some skills. We're going to show off some of what we've learned on Saturday night."

They are planning to do a couple of dances and lead Céilidh dancing as well. "We're going to invite people to come and join us on the dance floor."

Bingham said some of her group has been dancing for a year, and some have just joined in the past month. "We've got a range of people who've got some experience, and a range of people who have very little experience. And they're all doing great."

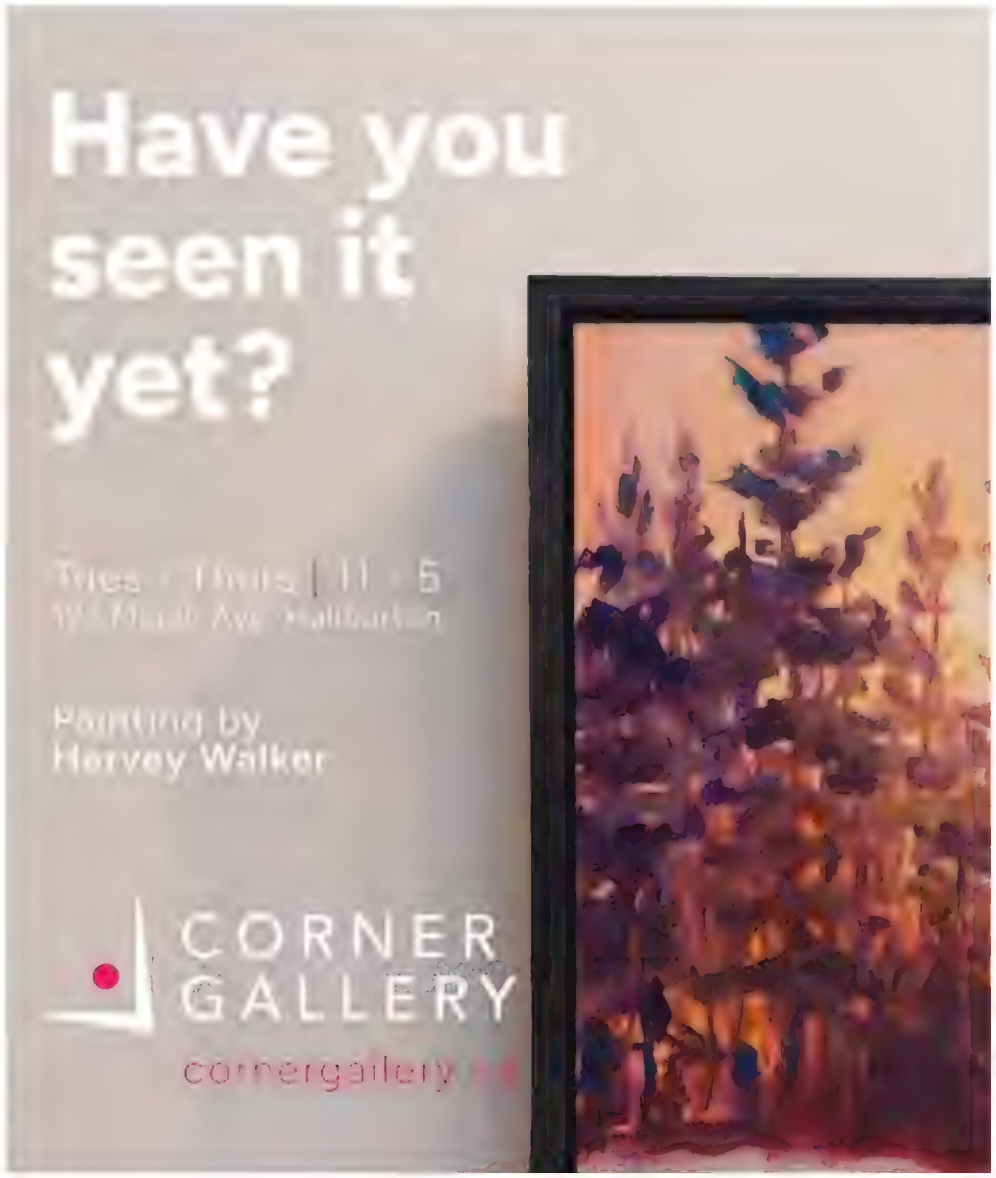
Bingham said when starting out as a beginner, there are a series of formations. "They're basically like little puzzle pieces. And when you learn the little bits of puzzle pieces, then in each dance those puzzle pieces get combined into a different sort of a puzzle. My job as a teacher is to try and teach what those puzzle pieces are so when you go and dance with other people, if they say 'we're going to circle four hands around and back', you know what that means."

She said the thing she loves about Scottish country dancing is it's very social and community-oriented. "Once you know the bits, you can go and dance anywhere." She added it can be as formal, or informal as people want.

"Our group is very social; it's very informal; it's very much about having fun and just getting out there and learning and enjoying dancing in whatever skillset you have. You could be really, really good at it, or you could be bad at it, and you're still welcome."

She encouraged people of all backgrounds to go as "it's important to be aware of older bits of culture, and really enjoy them and celebrate them. I'm a huge fan of folk dancing. It's such a regional thing in the world. But the whole point of it is always community." She also encouraged new dancers to their next session that begins Jan. 27.

Back row L-R: Katy Cox, Ken Beardsall, Tegan Legge, Michael Schiedel-Webb, Keanan Schiedel-Webb. Front row L-R: Meeka Aqqiaruq, Christel Furniss, Sandra Chadwick, Jewelle Schiedel-Webb. *Submitted.*



THE CORPORATION OF
MINDEN HILLS

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills has received an application to consider a by-law to stop up, close, and convey a parcel of land, being a shoreline road allowance, and more particularly described as follows:

1. File No. PLSRA2024031: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Soyers Lake, lying in front of 1056 Renown Drive, located within Part Lot 28, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Minden.

2. File No. PLSRA2024037: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Davis Lake, lying in front of 1257 Canuck Trail, located within Part Lot 10, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Lutterworth.

The above noted application is available for inspection in the Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario by appointment only. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the undersigned.

AND TAKE NOTICE should you wish to provide comments with respect to the above referenced application, please submit in writing those comments to the undersigned not later than February 22, 2025.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected is asked to contact the undersigned not later than February 22, 2025.

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE if deemed advisable, a By-law giving effect to the proposed closure and conveyance will be passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills. Please note that a Council meeting to consider a By-law for the above referenced applications will be scheduled at a later date following the requiste commenting period.

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons)
Manager of Planning
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duane@skycor.ca | Box 785, Minden, K0M 2K0

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OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Ruby "Jean" Mantle (nee Gillespie)

Passed away gently at Haliburton Hospital on Friday, January 10, 2025, at the graceful age of 92. Cherished mother to Donald, Kenneth (Grace), Kevin, Michael (Evonne), and Steven (Jane). Adored Grandmother to Mark, Catherine, Mathew, Daniel, Alissa, and Jacob. Beloved sister to Stewart (predeceased), Joan (Jim), Donald, Hazel (Charles Oliver, predeceased), Dale, and Cathy.

Jean, a radiant spirit born in the Miners Bay area, spent her life nurturing her family and tending to her beloved home. A passionate gardener, she found joy in the blossoms that adorned her surroundings and delighted in the visits from deer, birds, and other woodland creatures. After dedicating her years to her family, she embraced a new chapter, returning to school to become a PSW, and devoted many years to serving through the Red Cross and at the Case Manor of Bobcaygeon.

Visitation & Funeral Service

Family and friends are invited to call at the **PIONEER BAPTIST CHURCH** 7553 ON-35, Norland, ON K0M 2L0 on Wednesday, January 15th, 2025 for a Funeral Service beginning at 11 o'clock (visitation one hour prior.) As an expression of sympathy, donations in Jean's memory can be made to a charity of your choice. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **COBOCONK COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 6644 Hwy. #35 Coboconk, Ontario (705) 454-3913.

Community Funeral Home
www.communityfuneralhomes.com

In Loving Memory of

Barbara Ann Barker (nee Bird)

Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at the age of 62.

Beloved wife of Stephen Barker, dear mother of Curtis and Megan, Gavin and Sammie, loving nana of Sienna and Terra. Dear daughter of Beau and his wife Verna and predeceased by her mom Marylou, sister of Penny (Al Northey), Jim (Heather), Randy (Angie). Daughter-in-law of Ann and the late Don Barker, sister-in-law of David and Leeanna. Fondly remembered by her many nieces, nephews, family and friends. Barbara worked for the LCBO for 27 years in Minden, Haliburton and Wilberforce.

Barbara's wish was for cremation and no services.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) or Peterborough Regional Health Centre Foundation for the Cancer Clinic would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

Monk
www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Launcelot "Guy" Pritchard

Launcelot "Guy" Pritchard, in the twilight of his 70th year, took his graceful departure on January 13, 2025. Guy shall forever be cherished for his delightful wit and extraordinary tenor voice.

A born entertainer and gifted songwriter, Guy graced local stages, portraying memorable characters such as the Admiral in HMS Pinafore, and shared his talents with Serendipity and at Open Stages. Throughout his illustrious 27-year teaching career and as a cross-country ski coach, he enriched the lives of many.

His absence will be profoundly felt by his beloved wife Laurel, step-daughter April (David), her daughter Ashley (Lewis), great-grandson Rhett, sister Pamela, and brother Geoff (Mychelle). The music community mourns the loss of a true luminary.

Guy's legacy will continue to inspire those who had the privilege to know him and those who will come to learn of his remarkable contributions. As we remember him, let us celebrate the joy and harmony he brought into our lives, and may his spirit forever resonate in the music he loved so dearly.

Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Guy's life will be held on Thursday, January 23rd, 2025 from 4 - 6 in **THE COMMUNITY ROOM** 13523 Hwy #118 Haliburton, Ontario. For those who have stories and memories to share, we invite you to do so at 5:00 pm for our time of remembrance. As an expression of sympathy, please consider making a donation to the Kidney Foundation, Hospice Peterborough, or the HHHS Foundation in Guy's honour. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy #118 Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0 705-457-9209.

Community Funeral Home
www.communityfuneralhomes.com

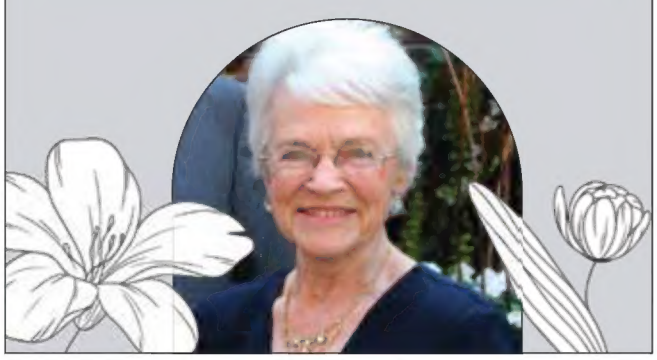
IN LOVING MEMORY OF

June Winnifred Marshall

It is with great sadness that June's family announces her passing in Peterborough in her 94th year on January 8, 2025. She is predeceased by her parents Milton and Marjorie Hie and her sister Nola Strizic (late Joseph).

She will be forever missed by her husband of 71 years, Jim and her children Gregory (Bonnie) and Lori (Michael Cummings), and her six grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. She will be missed by her sister Evelyn Griffin (late Neil) and her nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Life will be arranged at a later date.
According to her wishes, cremation has taken place. As expressions of sympathy, donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated by her family.



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SOLUTIONS FOR JANUARY 23

1 D	2 E	3 C	4 O	5 D	6 E	7 D	■	8 M	9 O	10 N	■	11 R	12 G	13 T
14 O	L	D	N	A	V	Y	■	15 A	M	A	16 T	E	U	R
17 T	I	T	A	N	I	C	■	18 G	E	O	R	G	I	A
■	■	■	19 T	A	L	K	20 I	N	G	H	E	A	D	S
21 K	22 A	23 Y	O	■	■	■	24 C	A	A	■	25 B	L	E	H
26 O	N	E	O	27 R	28 T	29 W	O	■	■	30 S	E	E	D	Y
31 B	A	T	T	E	R	O	N	32 D	33 E	C	K	■	■	■
34 O	P	I	■	35 A	O	K	■	36 C	R	U	■	37 L	38 G	39 A
■	■	■	40 S	C	I	S	41 S	O	R	S	42 H	O	L	D
43 D	44 O	45 W	A	H	■	■	46 U	N	S	E	A	L	E	D
47 A	H	E	N	■	48 A	49 T	E	■	■	■	50 V	A	N	S
51 D	E	N	T	52 A	L	B	R	53 I	54 D	55 G	E	■	■	■
56 O	N	T	A	R	I	O	■	57 L	O	A	F	58 E	59 R	60 S
61 E	R	O	S	I	O	N	■	62 S	U	T	U	R	E	S
63 S	Y	N	■	64 P	N	E	■	65 A	G	O	N	I	Z	E

SOLUTIONS FOR JANUARY 16

1 M	2 C	3 C	4 O	5 Y	6 S	■	7 V	8 I	9 P	■	10 I	11 T	12 T	13 O
14 M	O	O	L	A	H	■	15 E	M	U	■	16 C	A	R	R
17 L	O	R	D	N	E	18 L	S	O	N	■	19 I	K	E	A
20 I	P	A	■	■	21 R	I	P	■	■	22 S	C	E	N	T
■	■	23 L	24 A	25 D	Y	M	A	26 R	27 M	A	L	A	D	E
■	■	■	28 R	O	L	O	■	29 C	O	W	E	R	■	■
30 A	31 L	32 I	G	N	■	■	33 L	A	M	B	■	34 I	35 L	36 E
37 D	U	C	H	E	38 S	39 S	O	F	S	U	40 S	S	E	X
41 A	G	E	■	42 G	E	L	S	■	■	43 C	O	K	E	S
■	■	44 S	45 T	O	L	E	■	46 A	47 O	K	S	■	■	■
48 D	49 U	K	E	O	F	W	50 I	N	D	S	O	51 R	■	■
52 U	P	A	N	D	■	■	53 M	O	E	■	■	54 U	55 S	56 B
57 T	O	T	E	■	58 C	59 O	U	N	T	60 B	61 A	S	I	E
62 C	N	E	T	■	63 I	M	S	■	64 T	A	T	T	L	E
65 H	E	R	S	■	66 S	G	T	■	67 E	A	S	Y	O	N

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8	9	1	2	3	5	4	7	6
7	4	5	9	6	1	3	2	8

CLASSIFIEDS $9 • BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS $29

HELP WANTED

HALIBURTON GOLD GROUP | RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH BROKERAGE - INDEPENDENTLY OWNED + OPERATED JEFF & JESS WILSON

WE'RE HIRING

Client Communication Specialist & Bookkeeper

Type: Part-Time, Seasonal, Open to Hybrid Working Position. Compensation: Negotiable based on experience.

About us: We are a thriving real estate team in Haliburton, committed to delivering exceptional service. We aim to ensure smooth transactions through prioritizing professionalism, care and attention to detail. This dual-role position is perfect for someone who enjoys connecting with people, is detail oriented, and has strong organization skills.

Key Responsibilities:

Client Communications:
- Maintain and update client information in our CRM system
- Provide communication to clients regarding property transactions, including online statistics, showing summaries, and comparable sales
- Address client concerts and questions with professionalism

Bookkeeping:
- Maintaining accurate financial records, including income, expenses, and transaction details
- Track and manage accounts payable and receivable
- Coordinate with external accountants or auditors as needed

Qualifications:
- Experience in customer service and/or bookkeeping
- Proficiency with CRM software, accounting tools (eg. Quickbooks, Xero), and standard office tools (eg. Microsoft Office, Google Workspace)

How to apply:
- Please send your resume and a brief cover letter explaining why you are a good fit for this position to admin@haliburtongoldgroup.com
- For questions or more information call 833-457-8487 or email us
- Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, so don't wait to apply!

Hudson HUDSON HENDERSON INSURANCE BROKERS — HELP WANTED

Administrative Assistant

Full-Time • Haliburton

Hudson Henderson Insurance Brokers is a forward-thinking insurance firm committed to providing unparalleled service and innovative solutions to our clients. We are looking for a motivated and detail-oriented individual to join our team.

Key Responsibilities
- Assist licensed insurance brokers in preparing quotes and policy proposals for clients.
- Perform administrative tasks such as data entry, filing, and maintaining client records.
- Provide exceptional customer service by addressing client inquiries and processing policy changes.
- Collaborate with the sales team to identify new business opportunities and follow up on leads.
- Support the processing of insurance applications and claims.
- Stay up-to-date with industry trends and changes in insurance regulations.

Qualifications:
- High school diploma or equivalent; additional education or certifications in insurance or a related field is a plus.
- Strong organizational and multitasking skills.
- Excellent communication and customer service skills.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Outlook).
- Attention to detail and the ability to work independently.
- Prior experience in the insurance industry or a related field is preferred but not required.

Benefits:
- Competitive salary • Benefit options
- Paid time off and holidays.
- Opportunities for professional development and career advancement.

How to Apply:

Please submit your resume and a cover letter outlining your qualifications and interest in the position to info@hudsonhenderson.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

LOOKING FOR WORK

CONSTRUCTION WORKER looking for work. Familiar with all aspects of construction. Mason by trade. Available for weekends or rainy days or full time, Call Shannon 306-317-7073

LOOKING TO RENT

LOOKING TO RENT - 1 bedroom apartment immediately for a 63 year old lady, no stairs. Please call Christine at 705-457-3795

FOR RENT

SELF-CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS for rent - Industrial Park Road, various sizes, Call (705) 457-1224

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J & D TOWING & SERVICE STATION - will pay top dollar for scrap cars. We also provide towing services as well as flat bed. Call Jim 705-447-2113

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SKILLED HANDYMAN - Available for renovations, trim, tile, bathroom, deck, basement, flooring and paint. Please call or text Bob at 705-457-6190

HANDYMAN - Carpentry, general repairs. Call or text Doug at 416-889-8534

WILL DO PICK-UPS from your home around Minden, Haliburton and Carnarvon areas. Pop cans, beer cans, clean tin cans, liquor bottles. The proceeds will go to help the Food Bank. Also, will pick up loads of scrap. Call 705-286-2525

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FOR SALE - GUILFORD FIREWOOD - Nicely cut and split, ready to burn. $130 per face cord - pick up. Delivery available, call 705-754-3034

FOR SALE - 4 Subaru summer tires & wheels, 205/55R16 $100, 4 Sailun Terramax winter tires 245/70R17 $60, 6 Alternators Valeo 60 amp, new in box $40 each, 2 Honda D15A3 engines, low kms $450 each, 1 Honda EW2 engine, low time $450, starter for Honda D Series, new in box $100, stainless steel T304 tubing straights, J's & U-Bends, call for list, Meyer E-60 plough pump, new valves & controller $800. Call 705-457-8775

FOR SALE - Rainbows for stocking, 8" fish available April 1st, contact halihhoa@gmail.com Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association, 6712 Gelert Rd, Haliburton

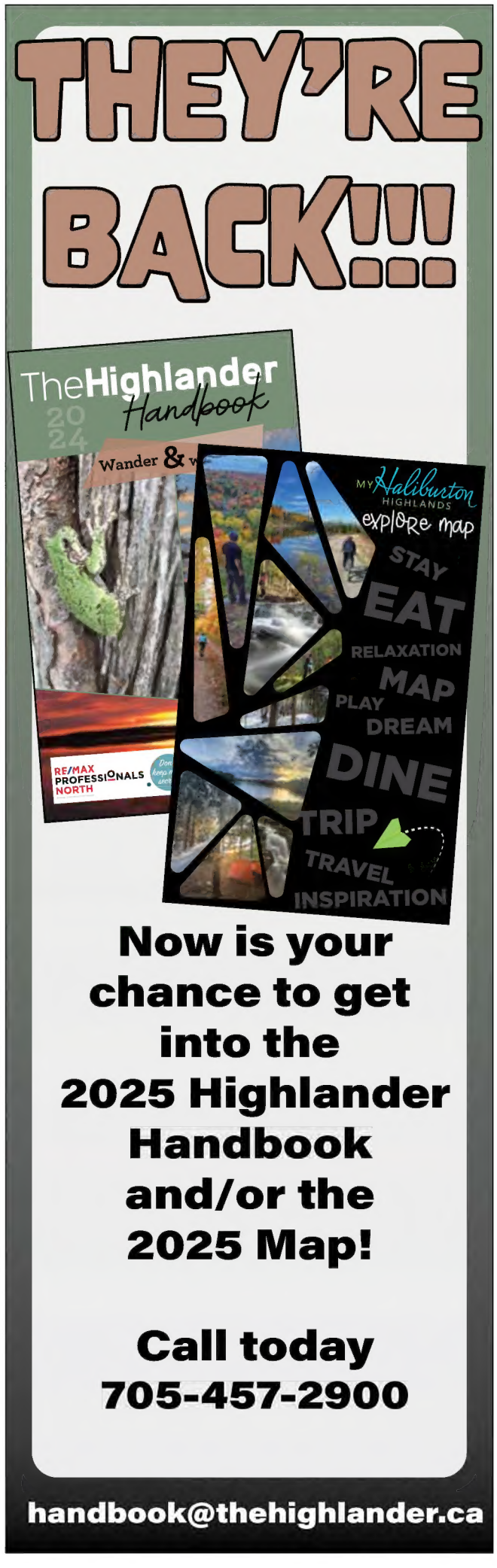
NOTICES

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS - **Sundays** - 10:30 am at St. Anthony's, 27 Victoria Street Haliburton. **Mondays** - 7:00 pm at West Guilford Baptist church. **Wednesdays** - 7:00 pm at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St. in Minden - rear door. Thinking about alcohol. Thinking about stopping. We've been there. We can help!

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Admission is free and the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using. This meeting is for addicts only. New meeting in Haliburton that meets every **Thursday** from 7:30-8:30 pm in the Link Building. 5152 County Rd 21. For more information and an online version visit www.cloana.org or call 1-888-811-3887

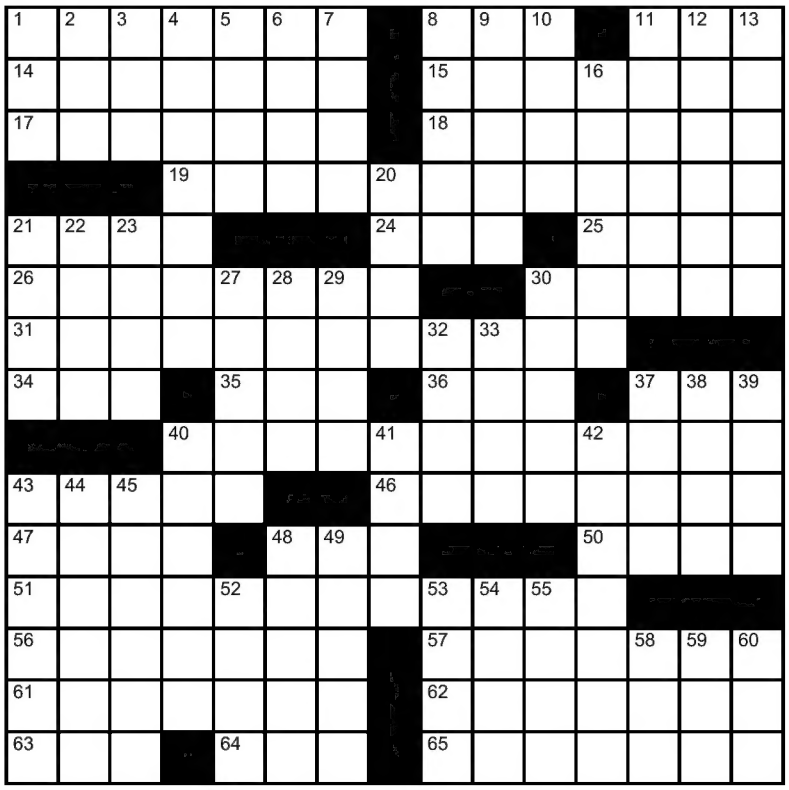
THANK YOU

THANK YOU TO ALL OF COUNTY AUTOMOTIVE CUSTOMERS - As of January 22, I (James) will no longer own County Automotive as the business has been sold. It has been a pleasure serving all of our customers for the last 13 years. Thank You, James and Tammy



Ship of Foolishness

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords



Across

1 Did a cryptographer's job
8 The Bangles' "manic" day: Abbr.
11 Mil. unit
14 Clothing chain with a nautical name
15 One who's no pro
17 She was dubbed the "unsinkable ship"
18 Atlanta's state
19 Ship's bathrooms equipped with Siri?
21 Flatten à la Foreman
24 Club giving free tows: Abbr.
25 "Ugh!"
26 Only a handful
30 Like a roach motel
31 Baseball slugger atop the ship?
34 Nail Envy maker
35 Just dandy
36 Fine wine designation
37 Airport alternative to JFK
40 Cargo area for barber tools?
43 "___ Diddy Diddy" (1964 song)
46 Popped the top off
47 "Two owls and ___, ...": E. Lear
48 Covered, as a loss
50 Moving wheels
51 Upper structure where the ship's orthodontist works?
56 Province meaning "sparkling water" in Iroquois
57 Slip-on shoes
61 Process of chewing away
62 Stitches, medically
63 Roget suggestion: Abbr.
64 Van. summer festival
65 Do much hand-wringing (over)

Down

1 Nickname for Dorothy
2 ___ Lilly (drug company)
3 Summer hrs. in Winnipeg
4 Painting the town
5 CNN reporter Bash
6 Four fifths of the devil?
7 Flemish artist Van ___
8 Word before "Carta" or "cum laude"
9 Horseshoe-shaped Greek letter
10 Sodium hydroxide, to a chemist
11 Entertain with grand tales
12 Took by the hand
13 Gaudy and crude
16 Alex ___ Studio, where Jennings works
20 Clickable symbol
21 eReader that's an anagram of "book"
22 Take ___ (catch some Zs)
23 Nepal's airline
27 "Ah, but a man's ___ should exceed his grasp ...": Browning
28 Starship Enterprise counsellor
29 Cantonese cookware
30 "Pardon," slangily
32 Rodent-control brand
33 Isn't perfect
37 "Copacabana" girl
38 Highlands valley
39 Tosses in
40 Some Christmas lawn ornaments
41 Damages-seeker
42 "Enjoy yourself!"
43 Does groovy woodwork?
44 "The Gift of the Magi" author
45 Continued speaking
48 What March comes in like
49 Side-angle car crash
52 "What ___!" (response to a money-grab)
53 She turned up at Rick's
54 56-Across's premier Ford
55 Catalonian cat
58 ___ tu (Verdi aria)
59 Snotty Nose ___ Kids (Haisla hip hop group)
60 U-turn from NNW

Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association
Fish Hatchery

RAINBOW TROUT FOR SALE

Spring is around the corner, and starting April 1, there will be a limited number of 8" rainbows available @$2.50 each.

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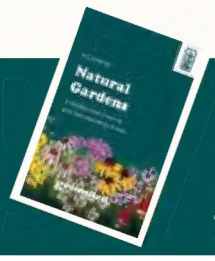

For a free guide to natural gardens in Haliburton County, visit groundedgardens.ca.

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